10580160 - GAU: 3742

Attorney's Docket No.: 19330-003US1 / SHR 504620USPF

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

: Paul Nigel Maynard et al.

Art Unit

: Unknown

Serial No.

: 10/580,160

Examiner: Unknown

Filed,

: May 19, 2006

Title

IMPROVED TREATMENT PROCESS

## MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants disclose the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449, only copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed. Also enclosed is a copy of a search report dated February 8, 2005, issued in corresponding International Application PCT/NZ2004/000295. The search report lists 4 of the 24 documents disclosed herein.

Applicants have not been able to confirm whether or not Document BF was published but believe that it has never been published, and, as such, does not constitute prior art.

This statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application. Please apply any charges to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

12-18 -06

Fish & Richardson P.C. 225 Franklin Street

Boston, MA 02110

Telephone: (617) 542-5070 Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

21365483.doc

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,

Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>2</u>

| /5  | Substitute Form PTO-1449<br>(Modified) | U.S. Department of Commerce<br>Patent and Trademark Office | Attomey's Docket No.<br>19330-003US1 | Application No. 10/580,160 |  |
|-----|--|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 611 | %\ by A                                | sclosure Statement<br>pplicant                             | Applicant Paul Nigel Maynard et al.  |                            |  |
| DEC | 21 2006 (Use several s                 | heets if necessary)  | Filing Date May 19, 2006             | Group Art Unit             |  |

| U.S. Patent Documents |              |                    |                     |               |       |          |                            |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| Examiner Initial      | Desig.<br>ID | Document<br>Number | Publication<br>Date | Patentee      | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate |
|                       | AA           | 6,124,584          | 09/26/2000          | Blaker et al. | 219   | 779      |                            |
|                       | AB           | 4,258,240          | 03/24/1981          | Pless         | 219   | 10.41    |                            |
|                       | AC           | 3,721,013          | 03/20/1973          | Miller        | 34    | 1        |                            |

| Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications |        |                 |             |               |       |          |       |         |
|---|--------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|-------|----------|-------|---------|
| Examiner  | Desig. | Document        | Publication | Country or    |       |          | Trans | slation |
| Initial   | ID     | Number          | Date        | Patent Office | Class | Subclass | Yes   | No      |
|   | AD     | 272276          | 12/2/1995   | NZ            |       |          |       |         |
|   | AE     | WO 02/065038 A1 | 08/22/2002  | PCT           | F26B  | 5/04     |       |         |

|  |  | ocuments (include Author, i   | Title, Date, and Place of Publication)   |  |  |
|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| Examiner Initial   | Desig.   |   |  |  |  |
| IIIIIai  | עו   | Avramidis et al. "CCA Appalarated E   | Document  Tixation By Dielectric Heating", Forest Prod. Journal 46:52-55.  |  |  |
|  | AF   | 1996.   | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·  |  |  |
|  | AG   | Avramidis et al., "Commercial-Scale Considerations", Forest Prod. Journal   | RF/V Drying of Softwood Lumber. Part 1. Basic Kiln Design 46:44-51, 1996.  |  |  |
|  | AH   |   | RF/V Drying of Softwood Lumber. Part 2. Drying   |  |  |
|  | An   | Characteristics and Lumber Quality",  | Forest Prod. Journal 46:27-36, 1996.   |  |  |
|  | AI Avramidis et al., "Commercial-Scale RF/V Drying of Softwood Lumber. Part 3. Energy Consumption and Economics", Forest Prod. Journal 47:48-56, 1997. |   |  |  |  |
| -  | AJ   | Avramidis et al., "Exploratory Radio-frequency/vacuum Drying of Three B.C. Coastal Softwood Forest Products Journal 42:17-24, 1992.   |  |  |  |
|  | AK Avramidis et al., "Radio-frequency/vacuum Drying of Softwoods: Drying o   |   |  |  |  |
|  | AK   | Redcedar with Constant Electrode Voltage", Forest Products Journal 44:41-47, 1994.  Bicho et al., "Characterization and Treatment of Condensates Generated From Softwoods That Ha Been Radio-Frequency/Vacuum Kiln Dried", Forest Products Journal 46:51-56, 1996.  Dwinell et al., "Evaluation of a Radio-frequency/vacuum Dryer for Eradicating the Pinewood Nematode in Green Sawn Wood", Forest Products Journal 44:19-24, 1994.  Elustondo et al. "The Demonstration of Increased Lumber Value Using Optimized Lumber Sortin |  |  |  |
|  | AL   |   |  |  |  |
|  | AM   |   |  |  |  |
|  | AN   |   |  |  |  |
| AO Fang et al., "Application of Radio-Frequency Heating to Utility Poles. Part 1. Radio-Frequency/Vacuum Drying of Roundwood", Forest Products Journal 51:56-60, 2001.   |  |   | equency Heating to Utility Poles. Part 1. Radio-   |  |  |
|  | AP   | Harris, "dimensional Stability of Red   | Oak and Eastern White Pine Dried by Radio-<br>Drying Processes", Forest Products Journal 38:25-26, 1988.               |  |  |
| Harris et al., "Comparison of Moisture Content Distribution, Stress Distribution, and Red Oak Lumber Dried by a Radio-Frequency/Vacuum Drying Process and a Conver Forest Products Journal 34:44-54, 1984.  Harris et al., "Observations on Kiln Drying Appalachian Red Oak and Southern Red Open, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina, pages 40-49. |  |   | e Content Distribution, Stress Distribution, and Shrinkage of requency/Vacuum Drying Process and a Conventional Kiln", |  |  |
|  |  |   | rying Appalachian Red Oak and Southern Red Oak", Forestry  |  |  |
| Examiner Signature<br>/Philip Leung/   |  |   | Date Considered 10/06/2008   |  |  |
| EXAMINER: I  |  |   | t in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with  |  |  |
| 00   | oction to ap   | PHOMIC  | 0. b - 12. b - D' b  |  |  |

Sheet <u>2</u> of <u>2</u>

| Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)                 |                   |                                     | Application No. 10/580,160 |  |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
|   | closure Statement | Applicant Paul Nigel Maynard et al. |                            |  |
| (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b)) |                   | Filing Date May 19, 2006            | Group Art Unit             |  |

|                     | Other D      | ocuments (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)   |
|---------------------|--------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Initial | Desig.<br>ID | Document   |
| iiillai             | <del></del>  | Harris, "Dimensional Stability of Red Oak and Eastern White Pine Dried by Radio-   |
|                     | BA           | frequency/vacuum and Conventional Drying Processes", Forest Products Journal 38:25-26, 1988  |
|                     | ВВ           | Jung et al., "Vacuum-press Drying of Thick Softwood Lumbers", Drying Technology 18:1921-1933, 2000.  |
|                     | BC           | Lee et al., "Properties of Red Oak Lumber Dried by Radio-frequency/vacuum Process and Dehumidification Process", Forest Products Journal 34:56-58, 1984.     |
|                     | BD           | Smith et al., "Economic Analysis of Producing Red Oak Dimension Squares with a Radio-<br>Frequency Vacuum Dry Kiln", Forest Products Journal 46:30-34, 1996. |
|                     | BE           | Zhang et al., "Moisture Flow characteristics During Radio Frequency Vacuum Drying of Thick Lumber', Wood Science and Technology 31:265-277, 1997.            |
|                     | BF           | Zwick et al., "Q-Sift-A Novel Processing Approach to Meet the End-User's Requirements for Wood Moisture Content", pages 1-10, PROBABLY NEVER PUBLISHED.      |
|                     | BG           |  |
|                     | ВН           | ·  |
|                     | BI           |  |
|                     | ВЈ           |  |
|                     | BK           |  |
|                     | BL           |  |
|                     | BM           |  |
|                     | BN           |  |
|                     | ВО           |  |
|                     | BP           |  |
|                     | BQ           |  |
| <del> </del>        | BR           |  |
|                     | BS           |  |
|                     | BT           |  |
|                     | BU           |  |
|                     | BV           |  |
|                     | BW           |  |
|                     | BX           |  |
|                     | BY           |  |

| Examiner Signature                              | /Philip Leung/ | Date Considered 10/06/2008   |
|---|----------------|--|
| EXAMINER: Initials cita next communication to a |                | if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with |